



## State of Utah

### Department of Natural Resources

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*Executive Director*

### Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands

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*State Forester/  
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JON M. HUNTSMAN, JR.  
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*Lieutenant Governor*

#### NEWS RELEASE

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#### UTAH STATE FORESTER HONORS EXCELLENCE IN WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

Utah State Forester Joel Frandsen has presented awards to three county fire wardens, a fire chief, and a land and livestock company during an annual fire wardens closeout meeting held this year in Ruby's Inn near Bryce Canyon. The meeting was held October 27 and 28, 2005.

"Each year there's a tremendous effort put forth by a lot of people who work to prevent the devastation of wildland fire to our communities and our natural resources," said Frandsen. "These awards take note of some of those who have gone the extra mile in this work and I'm pleased to present them each year."



*Left to Right: Allen Briggs, Rudy Sandoval, Joel Frandsen and Kelly Pitcher.*

The "2005 Fire Warden of the Year" is Washington County Fire Warden Allen Briggs. Briggs' first year on the job saw the Washington County fire siege of 2005, a record setting fire season. There were more acres burned in the county during this year than ever before in one fire season. Briggs rose to the challenge and aggressively handled many difficult situations over the course of the fire season.



*Left to Right: Dave Dalrymple, Forestry, Fire & State Lands; Dave Vickers, Saratoga Springs; Denise Vickers, Saratoga Springs; and Keith Crumpton, Forestry, Fire & State Lands.*

"2005 Cooperator of the Year" is Saratoga Springs Fire Chief Dave Vickers. As fire chief of a rapidly expanding community he managed to effectively implement numerous programs to train and

equip firefighters, prepare a community fire plan, and deal with the many fire hazards that surround his community.

“2005 Excellence in Fire Prevention” award was presented to Rudy Sandoval, fire warden for Carbon and Emery counties. Sandoval worked closely with federal partners to educate citizens to the dangers of wildland fire. Sandoval has gone the extra mile in presenting wildland fire prevention messages at county fairs, schools, parades and through the media.

Deseret Land and Livestock Company was presented with the “2005 Excellence in Fuels Management” award. The company has been working closely with the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands to reduce wildland fire dangers on their land. The ranch has now constructed 38 miles of fuel break and has effectively used prescribed fire to reduce fire danger and improve wildlife habitat.

Frandsen also honored Cache County Fire Warden Kelly Pitcher for 15 years of service.



***Left to Right: Dave Dalrymple, Forestry, Fire & State Lands; Mike Downing, Deseret Land & Livestock; Amy Downing, Deseret Land & Livestock; and Dan Ames, Forestry, Fire & State Lands.***

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